

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAJ-01 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00

STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 NIC-01 OES-03 ACDA-05

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R 211334Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3045

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0393

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, US, UR

SUBJECT: CENTRAL COMMITTEE OFFICIAL TELLS US DETENTE WILL
CONTINUE

1. MARIAN KRUCZKOWSKI, ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE PZPR CENTRAL
COMMITTEES PRESS AND PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT, POINTEDLY TOOK
THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR ASIDE AT A POLISH RECEPTION ON JANU-
ARY 18 TO VOLUNTEER ASSURANCES THAT THE POLISH PARTY DOES
NOT VIEW DETENTE AS THREATENED BY THE SOVIET ABROGATION OF
THE 1972 SOVIET-US TRADE AGREEMENT. KRUCZKOWSKI SAID
THAT THE WIDESPREAD SPECULATION IN THE WEST ABOUT A
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RETURN TO THE COLD WAR WAS NONSENSE. HE SAID THAT

NEITHER THE SOVIETS NOR THE POLES WANT TO TURN BACK FROM DETENTE. THERE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE PROBLEMS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, AND BETWEEN POLAND AND THE US, BUT THEY SHOULD BE SOLVED IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF DETENTE RATHER THAN IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF COLD WAR. HE EMPHASIZED THAT POLAND VALUES HIGHLY THE WARMER RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES THAT HAVE DEVELOPED OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS AND IN PARTICULAR THE GOOD ATMOSPHERE DURING AND SINCE GIEREKS VISIT TO THE US. HE CONCLUDED THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO PRESERVE THAT ATMOSPHERE AND TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS THAT SURELY WILL ARISE FROM TIME TO TIME.

2. KRUCZKOWSKI SPOKE WITH AUTHORITY AND UNDOUBTEDLY INTENDED TO CONVEY THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS REPRESENTING THE VIEWS OF THE POLISH PARTY AND GOVERNMENT.

3. THE SAME DAY, POLITYKA EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MIECZYSLAW RAKOWSKI, WHO IS A CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND A LEADING PRESS SPOKESMAN FOR THE PARTY, TOLD THE PAO DURING A LUNCHEON AT THE LATTERS HOUSE THAT, IN HIS VIEW, ALTHOUGH "SOMETHING WAS GOING ON IN THE SOVIET HIERARCHY", WHATEVER LEADERSHIP CHANGES MIGHT OCCUR IN THE SOVIET UNION, "POSSIBLY IN THE NEXT 3-4 MONTHS", WOULD NOT AFFECT THE POLICY OF DETENTE OR SOVIET RELATIONS WITH THE US. RAKOWSKI, WHO VISITED THE SOVIET UNION IN LATE DECEMBER, SAID THAT THE SOVIET MILITARY, THE MOST SKEPTICAL FORCE WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION ABOUT BREZHNEV'S DETENTE POLICY, SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN REASSURED BY THE VLADIVOSTOK AGREEMENT.

4. COMMENT: CLEARLY, THE POLISH PARTY STRONGLY DESIRES A CONTINUATION OF DETENTE AND DOES NOT FORESEE A CHANGE IN SOVIET DETENTE POLICIES. ANOTHER PROMINENT POLISH JOURNALIST MADE THE SAME POINT TO US LAST WEEK, ADDING THAT THE ONLY THING HIS COLLEAGUES FEAR IS AN ABRUPT CHANGE IN SOVIET LEADERSHIP WITHOUT PREPARATION WHICH COULD LEAD TO A PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY. WELL-INFORMED POLES BELIEVE THAT BREZHNEV'S HEALTH IS FAILING AND THAT, AS A RESULT, HE MAY BE FORCED AT SOME POINT TO STEP DOWN. CONFIDENTIAL

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HOWEVER, THEY HOPE FOR--AND CLAIM TO FORESEE--A CONTINUATION OF HIS DETENTE POLICIES. THE CAVEAT ABOUT THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF AN ABRUPT, UNPREPARED SOVIET LEADERSHIP CHANGE IS THE ONE CONCERN WE HAVE HEARD VOICED TO DATE. DAVIES

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